Fire incident in Chandralok Building

844. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem captioned 'Chandralok Building partially gutted' appearing in the "The Hindustan Times" dated the 18th June, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the preventive measures being taken or propose to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news-item highlighted, inter alia, the inadequacy of fire safety arrangements in the NDMC owned Chandralok building.

(c) The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has initiated a comprehensive review of the laws relating to fire service/fire prevention, etc. The NDMC has also constituted a Committee to look into the status of fire fighting arrangements in all NDMC owned buildings.

Non-registration of FIRs in Hauz Qazi Police Station

845. SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of non-registration of FIRs in Police Station Hauz Qazi, Delhi during the last one year and till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that any M.P. has also requested for the registration of FIR in some cases in Poice Station Hauz Qazi; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what action is proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) As per the report furnished by Delhi Police, no instance of non-registration of FIR in respect of a cognizable offence at Hauz Qazi Police Station has come to their notice.

(b) and (c) An Hon'ble Member of Parliament had in August, 1996 forwarded to Delhi Police for investigation a complaint made by a shopkeeper of Nai Sarak area in Delhi against his land-lord in which he had, inter alia, alleged that his land lord had stolen away cash amounting to Rs. 42,000/- and other important papers from his shop but this case had not been properly investigated by the police. As per the report given by the Delhi Police, the allegation of burglarly/ theft had been looked into earlier but was found to be false and hence the matter was filed.

Cell for North-Eastern region

846. SHRI W. ANGOW SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a new cell for looking after the problems of the North-Eastern region has been opened in the P.M.'s Office;

(b) if so, the details functions of the cell; and

(c) the reasons for not keeping a separate Ministry for the North-Eastern Affairs like that of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Following the Prime Minister's visit to the North Eastern States during October 1996, a Cell in Prime Minister's Office was opened. The function of the Cell is to monitor the progress of implementation of the New Initiatives for the North Eastern Region announced by the Prime Minister at Guwahati on 27th october 1996.